

Introduced by Senator Hill

(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Mullin)

(Coauthors: Senators Bates, Berryhill, Block, Galgiani, Mendoza, and Wolk)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Calderon, Chávez, Frazier, Gordon, Low, Maienschein, Waldron, and Wilk)

March 16, 2016

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 120—Relative to Biotechnology Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 120, as introduced, Hill. Biotechnology Day.

This measure would declare April 7, 2016, and every April 7 thereafter, as Biotechnology Day in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California is the global leader in the life sciences
2 industry; and

3 WHEREAS, This great state is home to the entire continuum
4 of the life sciences industry, including world class universities,
5 basic research centers, biotechnology start-ups, and anchor
6 biopharmaceutical companies; and

7 WHEREAS, There are currently 2,848 life sciences companies
8 in California, with 212 more companies than in 2014, generating
9 \$130 billion in revenue; and

10 WHEREAS, California life sciences companies directly employ
11 281,000 people all over the State of California, with concentrations
12 in the San Francisco Bay area, San Diego, Orange County, and
13 Los Angeles; and

1 WHEREAS, The life sciences are an economic driver in
2 California, a place where cutting-edge businesses thrive; and

3 WHEREAS, California has a concentration of research in the
4 life sciences industry; and

5 WHEREAS, California companies have 1,235 potential new
6 medicines in the pipeline and life science innovations have a
7 tremendous impact on the world's health and well-being; and

8 WHEREAS, New medicines and technologies emerging from
9 California companies and research institutions are likely to have
10 a remarkable impact on the health of the world's population and
11 help those afflicted with serious diseases, such as cancer, cystic
12 fibrosis, heart disease, multiple sclerosis, and rheumatoid arthritis;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, In the early 1970s, Herb Boyer at the University
15 of California and geneticist Stanley Cohen at Stanford University
16 pioneered a new scientific field called recombinant DNA
17 technology; and

18 WHEREAS, Venture capitalist, Bob Swanson, who was excited
19 by recombinant DNA technology's potential to help people, and
20 Herb Boyer together founded the first biotechnology company,
21 Genentech, in South San Francisco; and

22 WHEREAS, The founding of Genentech on April 7, 1976,
23 marked the birth of the biotechnology industry and planted the
24 industry's roots in California; and

25 WHEREAS, Genentech, a member of the Roche Group, remains
26 a leader in the biotechnology industry and continues to advance
27 its mission of transforming the lives of people with serious
28 diseases; and

29 WHEREAS, The biotechnology industry inspires the next
30 generation of scientists to help solve challenges like disease,
31 energy, and food security; and

32 WHEREAS, The biotechnology industry generates nearly \$259
33 billion in economic activity in California, provides more than one
34 million jobs, and is the source of billions of dollars in state and
35 local tax revenue; and

36 WHEREAS, The largest and most influential biotechnology
37 convention in the world, the BIO International Convention, will
38 take place in San Francisco, California, from June 6th to June 9th,
39 2016, with more than 15,000 anticipated attendees; and

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco hosted this convention in 1995 and
2 San Diego will host it in 2017, while the State of California has
3 hosted this convention five other times; and

4 WHEREAS, The BIO International Convention is where the
5 global biotech community meets, connecting the people,
6 companies, and innovations that help to fulfill the promise of
7 biotechnology through healing, fueling, and feeding the world;
8 now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
10 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby recognizes April
11 7, 2016, and every April 7th thereafter, as Biotechnology Day in
12 California; and be it further

13 *Resolved*, That the Senate urges Californians to recognize the
14 value and importance of the life sciences industry; and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
16 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.